

# MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

## Search Team Member Certification Standard Appendix D

### Recommended Minimum Personal Equipment List

The following is a list of the minimum equipment which MASAR recommends ground searchers have with them when responding to a search and/or rescue call. Equivalent items or combinations are acceptable, as noted. The list may be expanded to suit personal tastes, but the basic equipment normally carried while searching should not impair maneuverability or endurance.

Each searcher should be prepared to carry their equipment in winter conditions in rough terrain for up to 12 hours in the field (and 24 hours in a survival situation).. Basic equipment may be carried in a fanny pack or small day pack that can be stuffed inside the main pack when necessary. An additional supply of extra clothing, etc., that can be left at the search base is strongly recommended for all response situations.

NOTE: This list assumes that the searcher will be properly dressed for the season, as well as the prevailing and anticipated conditions.

#### Year-Round Equipment

Ready Pack	A light weight pack, vest with storage pockets, or a fanny pack
Compass:	Liquid-filled, plus spare. Sighting mirror recommended.
Watch	
Hunter-Orange Vest	Required item
Light:	Flashlight or headlamp and a second light source, both with extra bulb and batteries
Lightstick:	Cyalume or equal
Whistle:	Plastic
Eye protection:	Sunglasses with high UV protection and goggles (for protection from wind-borne debris)
Hand protection:	Leather or leather-palmed gloves
Ear protection:	2 sets disposable foam ear plugs or equal
Lip protection:	Lip balm or equivalent (optional)
Skin protection:	Sunscreen (optional)
Survival Knife:	Folding jack knife with multiple tools (locking blade recommended)
Fire Starter:	Two types, with at least one waterproof
Candle:	High temperature type that will not melt in pack
Cord:	20 feet of parachute cord

Emergency shelter: Lightweight plastic tarp or Bivy Sac  
 Space blanket  
 Small mirror: Compass mirror is an acceptable alternate  
 Note paper: Note cards or notebook  
 Writing tools: Marker for writing on flagging and pencil  
 Water: Minimum 2 quarts  
 Food: Non-perishable food for two meals and high-energy snack food  
 Medications: Three day supply of any personal medication  
 Insect repellent: If involved in work with rescue ropes and equipment avoid oil-based types (optional)

First aid kit to include:

2 triangular bandages	1 sheet moleskin adhesive
8 Band-Aids	1 multi-trauma dressing
1 roll 1" adhesive tape	4 large safety pins
1 Ace bandage	8 - 4" x 4" gauze pads
1 package aspirin or equal	CPR pocket mask
Gloves for body substance isolation	

Cup

Spoon

Toilet paper

Additional clothing suitable for local conditions:

Hat	Rain gear
Wind protection	Extra insulating clothing layer
Extra foot insulation layer	Extra hand insulation layer

**Equipment Added in Winter**

Hand protection: Extra mittens or gloves  
 Face protection: Balaclava or ski mask  
 Socks: Second pair of socks  
 Boot liners as needed  
 Snowshoes, cross-country skis, or creepers as needed.

**Additional Equipment To Be Carried In The Field As Needed**

Sleeping bag: Adequate for anticipated weather and temperatures  
 Insulated sleeping pad  
 Extra clothes: Complete set including boots  
 Food: Replacement of pack food according to personal preference. Quantities sufficient to sustain for 48 hours  
 Mess kit  
 Pack stove and extra fuel: 1 per team of 4 is adequate  
 Toilet articles: Towel, soap, toothbrush, etc.